

Diserie Vallard House
24 Westside
Wallace
Shoshone County
Idaho

HABS No. ID-96

HABS

ID

40-WAL

17-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, CA 94102

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

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STATE Idaho	COUNTY Shoshone	TOWN OR VICINITY City of Wallace
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Diserie Vallard House		HABS NO. ID-96
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 24 Westside, Wallace, Idaho (Legal: NE First Addition, Block 6, Portion of Lot 1)		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Circa 1912 (see supplement)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Not known	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) See supplement		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) See supplement		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) See supplement		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE See supplement		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) See supplement		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES See supplement		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Condition good, currently vacant		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE House is scheduled to be torn down in 1988 to make way for a motel-restaurant-gift shop complex		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Natl. Register of Hist. Places, Safeco Title Co., Shoshone County Asses Office, Sanborn Fire Maps, Barnard-Stockbridge photo Collection, Harry Olson, Richard Magnuson, Wallace Public Library, Census Bureau		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Michael J. Green, Depot Productions, Wallace, Idaho		DATE May 1988

DISERIE VALLARD HOUSE

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Diserie Vallard House at 24 Westside is a contributing element of the Wallace Historic District and is located in a residential area containing homes constructed between 1910 and 1920.

The City of Wallace was first settled in 1884. It is located along the South Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River and at the mouth of three side creeks and gulches amid North Idaho's steep Panhandle. The founding of the town followed discovery of fabulous lead-silver deposits in the surrounding mountains. As mining activity quickly grew, so did the town. By 1887 the population was 500, which grew to 2,816 by 1920 (U.S. Census Bureau).

The town flourished from mining activities, and Wallace became known as the Silver Capital of the World because more silver has been extracted from the Coeur d'Alene Mining District, with Wallace as the hub, than any place on earth.

Much of the town was located on a cedar swamp, which was drained as growth occurred. The west end of town containing this house was drained and developed last. Northern Pacific Railway first owned this land in west Wallace. NP leased to private individuals this land on which was built many homes. NP deeded the land to the homeowners in a period from 1920 to 1925. This addition to the town is known as the NP First Addition.

Dating exact construction of most of the houses is difficult because the first deeding of the property occurred after the homes were built. The Minnesota State Historical Society, Archives Manuscripts Division, which possesses defunct NP's records, could not locate copies of the original leases. Early fire maps and photographs show no homes built in that area prior to 1910. Most of the homes, then, were constructed from 1910-1920.

These dates were confirmed by Harry Olson, who has lived in west Wallace since 1922. He said in an interview most of the houses in west Wallace were already constructed when he moved there in 1922. He was 10 years old at the time.

Olson remembers nothing distinctive about west Wallace other than it being an ordinary residential part of town. Its residents were a mixture of business and working people, including miners, a druggist, county commissioner and even "bootleggers." The streets were paved in the addition about 1920, Olson said. A flood in

1933 caused considerable damage to the streets and homes, he said.

As mining activity in the district began to decline in the 1970s and 1980s, so did the number of jobs and demand for homes. The 1988 population of Wallace was 1,460 (source: Association of Idaho Cities). The character of some homes changed as they went from owner-occupied to rentals. Some deteriorated from lack of care. (Some had been rentals for most of their existence.)

Because of the fast growth of the town in a short time span, Wallace contains a unique homogenous blend of architecture, which led to first a few buildings, then the downtown district, then the entire core of town listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mining towns tend to have a transient population, and many homes have had numerous owners as a result. This house has had several owners but is named after Harry Olson, who has lived in the house since 1949.

County records show the house was built circa 1912. Harry Olson said the house was built by a man named Vallard, who he described as a builder of sorts and the namesake of Vallard Addition, a housing community located a half mile west of Wallace. Olson said the house was one of three built adjacent to each other that shared water and sewer lines. One house, located to the south at 28 Westside, still stands, but another, located to the west of the two, has been torn down. Olson said the houses were built as rentals to ease a housing shortage. Both houses on Westside are part of the same lot.

The first recorded deeding of the property was from NP to Diserie Villard (sic) on April 5, 1921. On June 12, 1925, Villard (sic) sold the house to Hazel Goulard, who deeded the house to Louis and Fay Bernardy. Louis deeded the house to Fay on July 3, 1945. Fay later married Millard Parcell, and the couple lived in the house for a number of years. Harry and Amber Olson purchased the house from the Parcells on March 4, 1949 (recorded date). The couple has lived in the house ever since.

MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS

A 1927 map shows the house had a composition shingle roof, which later was replaced. Harry Olson said Louis Bernardy in about 1936 remodeled the kitchen by extending it about five feet west into a former pantry. Olson also said the wood-pier foundation was replaced with a concrete block foundation and full basement in/about 1938 by Millard Parsell. At about the same time, Olson

said, Parsell added a stairway and finished the attic with two bedrooms. Olson's remodeling from 1956-1958 included covering the wallpaper over fabric with sheetrock and paint, lowering the ceiling about 18 inches to eight-foot heights, replacing windows on the north and east walls, adding some mahogany paneling and putting in a new bathroom. Also, the southeast bedroom was remodeled by shortening the west wall for a hallway, adding built-in cabinets on the west side of the hallway, changing the door from the north (in the living room) to the west side (in the hallway), and adding built-in closets in the south wall. Before the remodeling, access to the bathroom was gained through the bedroom. A new shake exterior was added in/about 1960, a rear unattached garage was built 1963-1964, and a new roof was added in/about 1982. An oil and wood furnace was replaced in about 1974 with a forced-air gas furnace. The kitchen was remodeled again about 1983, that included eliminating a window and installing new counters, cabinets and recessed lighting.

EXTERIOR FEATURES

The house is one and one-half story and rectangular. It has a concrete-block foundation and large wood-shake siding, painted brown, over an earlier shiplap siding painted chartreuse. The house has a gable roof with boxed eaves and corrugated-metal roofing. The west end of the house over the kitchen has a shed roof, as does the front porch. A brick chimney extends from the roof crest.

Six wood steps lead to the front, open porch, whose shed roof is supported by four wood posts. Preceding the front door is a wood storm door with numerous window panes. The other door is on the rear (west side) and is at ground level.

Windows are all wood frame and vary. The large living room windows in the east and north walls are fixed. One of the east-facing windows in the main floor bedroom is fixed and one is levered casement with a screen on the inside. The bathroom window facing south is hinged at the top and levered at the bottom with a screen on the inside. The second-story window on the east side is double-hung sash 1/1, and on the west side are twin sliding windows with twelve small lights in each.

The detached garage is wood frame and has a concrete block foundation, large wood-shingle siding painted the same brown as the house, a gravel floor, and a shed roof with rolled composition roofing.

INTERIOR FEATURES

Little remains of the original interior. The walls are covered

with a combination painted sheetrock and mahogany paneling. The kitchen has paneling of a brick pattern, gray and white in color. Floor coverings are either linoleum or carpeting over softwood floors.

The kitchen has linoleum on the floor, a double aluminum sink and recessed lighting. Most of the cabinets are oak, but one older softwood cabinet has been covered with cedar.

The bathroom has a linoleum floor, and the walls are completely tiled. The bedroom and bathroom doors are both pocket doors and slide into a wall. The bedroom has built-in fir plywood cabinets. The built-in cabinets in the hallway are mahogany.

A stairway to the second floor is located in the northwest corner of the living room. Four carpeted steps gain access to a door and a quarter pace to the left. Then, 11 wood steps lead to the second floor. The tread nosing is rounded, and there are no hand rails. Siding for the stairway is tongue-and-groove wood. The walls and ceiling of the second story are finished with paneling, and the floor is fiberboard. Closets separate the two rooms upstairs.

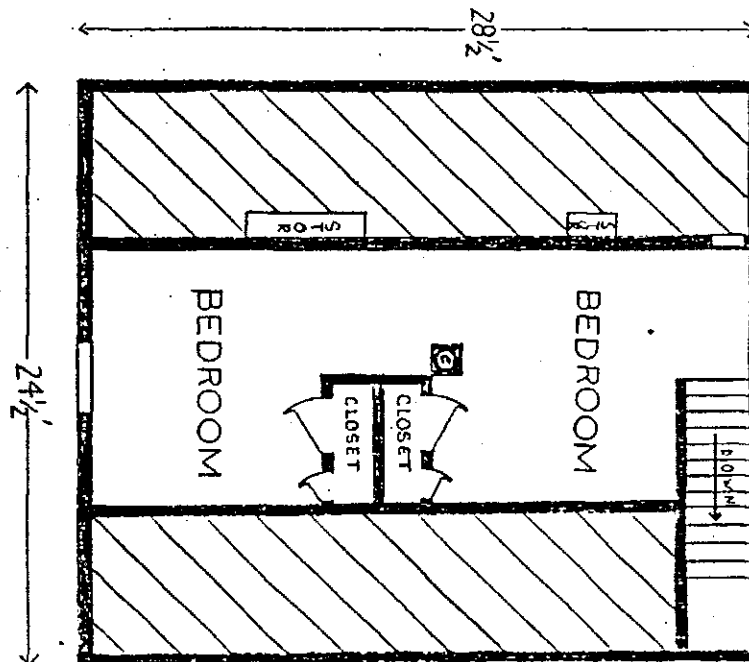
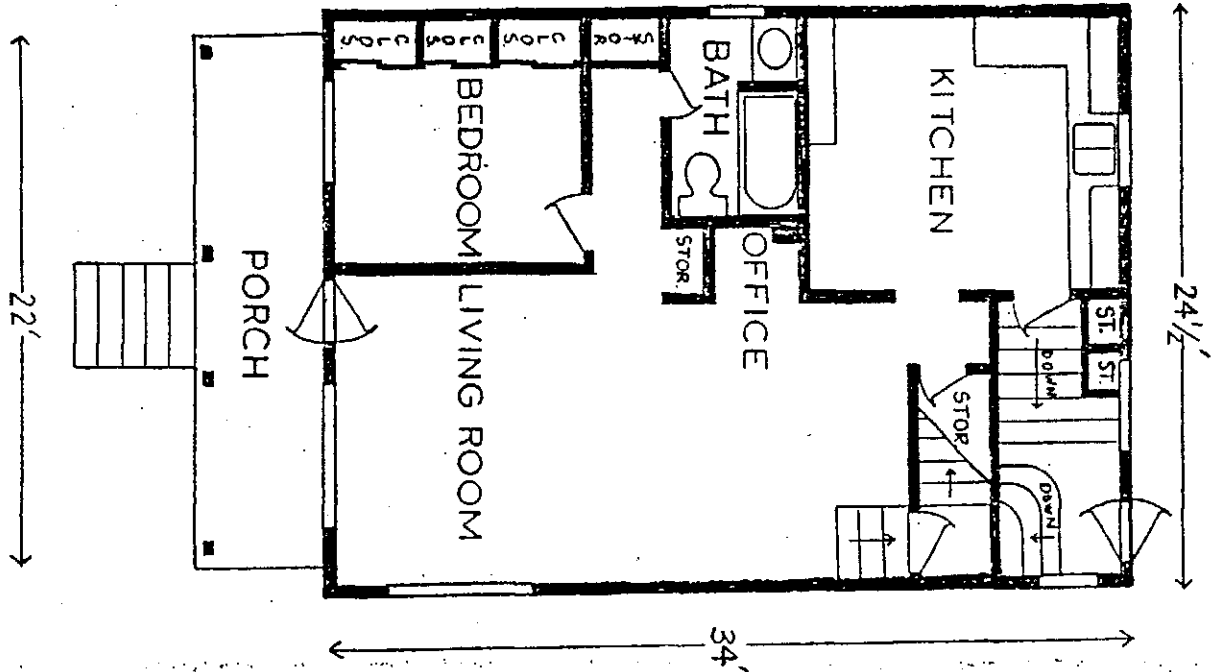
From the kitchen, seven wood steps lead to a concrete landing and back door, then a right turn and three concrete steps gain access to the basement door and basement. The basement mostly has a concrete floor, but part also is brick and some is dirt. One storage room is partitioned off in the northeast corner. Also located in the basement are the base of the brick chimney, a gas furnace, work benches and shelves.

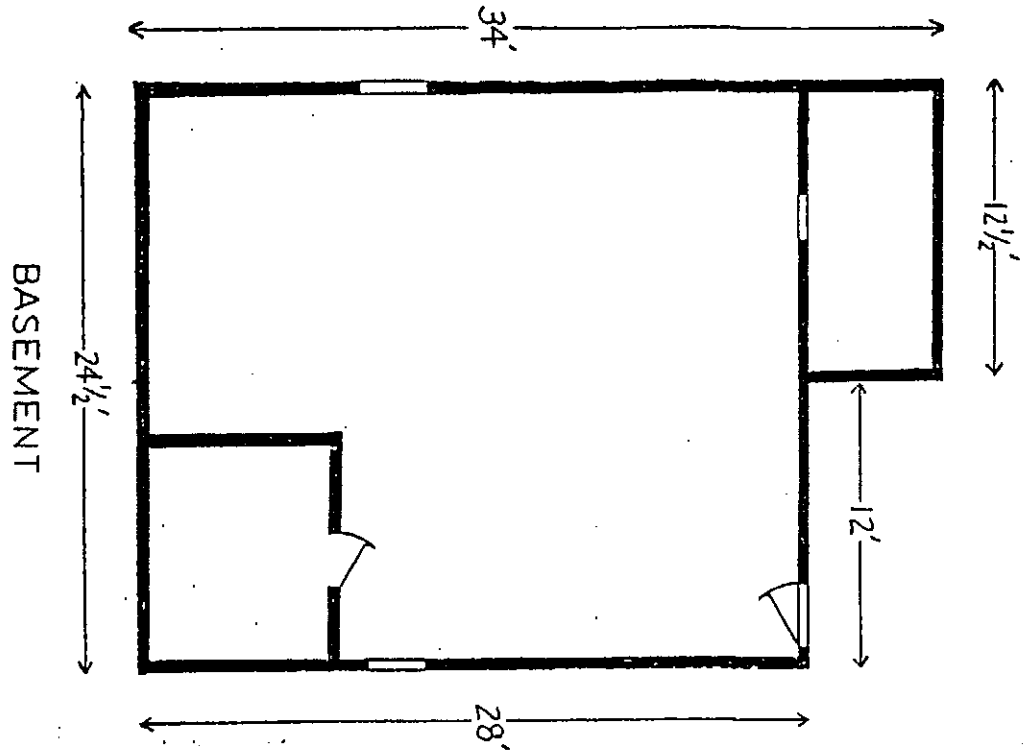
Two windows, one each on the north and south sides, have been covered from the outside.



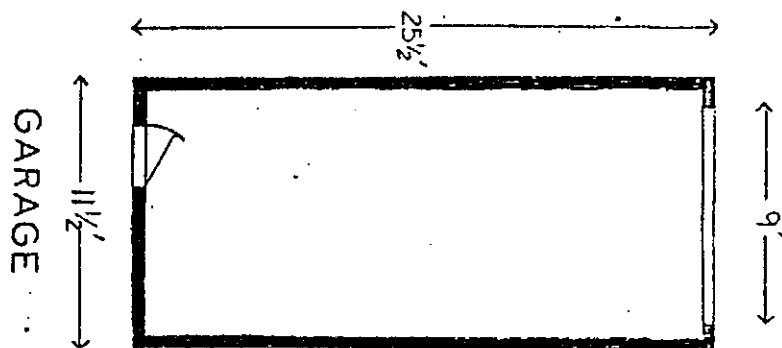
SCALE 1/8"=1'
K.A. STALEY

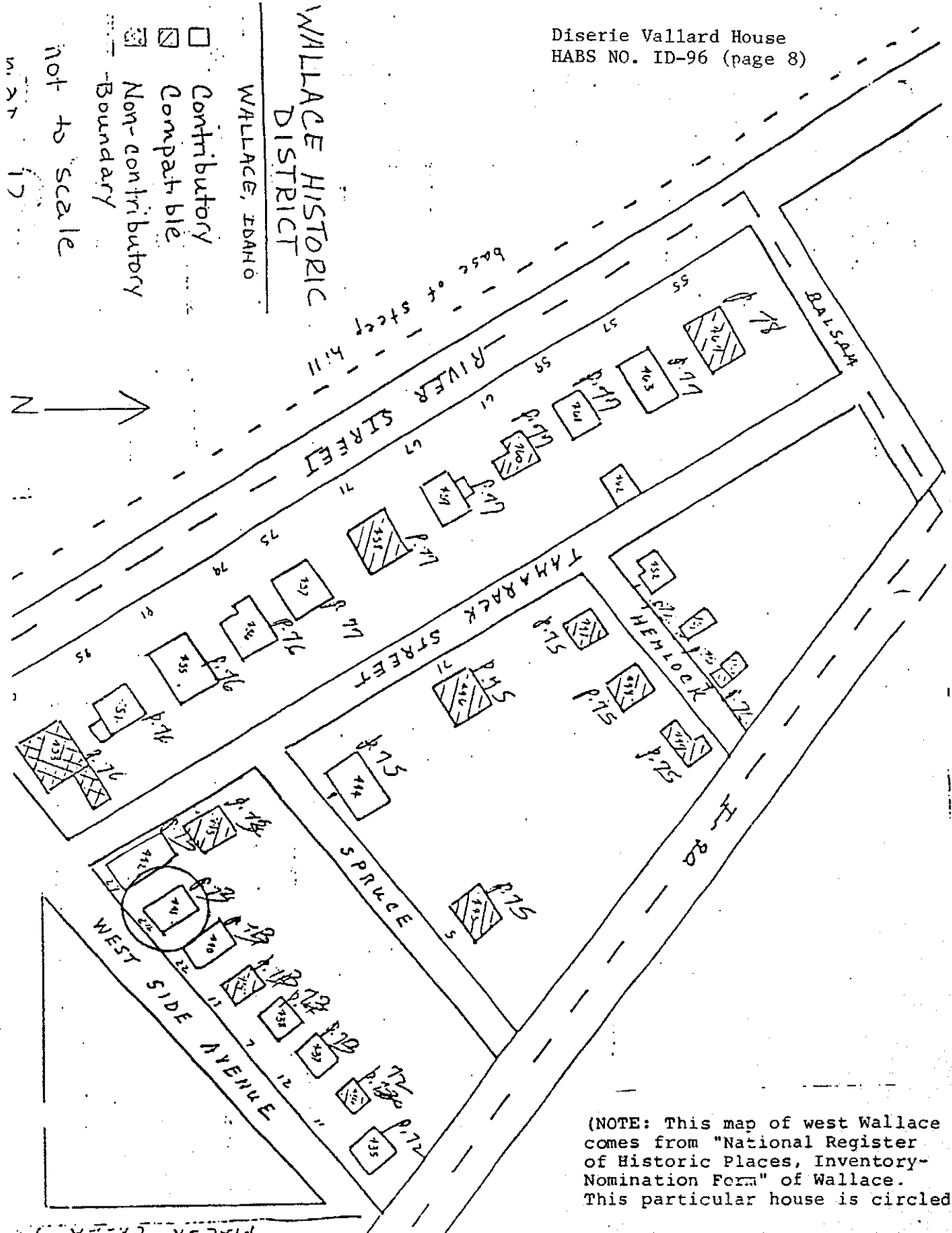
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SCALE 1/8"=1'
K.A. STALEY





(NOTE: This map of west Wallace comes from "National Register of Historic Places, Inventory-Nomination Form" of Wallace. This particular house is circled)